

5/20/09 Ark River Meeting

Mo Terrebonne opened the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Attendees:

Kay Drennen – WATER Center

Erin Blume –Learjet

Monty Munyon – Sedgwick Co. Code Enforcement

Wess Galyon –WABA

Curt Van Boening – Wichita Audubon Society

M. S. Mitchell –MAPC

Elisabeth Skibba – Geotechnical Services

Sarah Goentz – Geotechnical Services

Kim Austin – Terracon Consultants

Hoyt Hillman – MAPC

Mr. Terrebonne introduced Shawn Maloney, who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Interaction of Groundwater & Surface Water.

Mr. Maloney reviewed the responsibilities of the Environmental Assessment & Remediation section, then gave statistics on the Gilbert-Mosley treatment center. He pointed out that EAR is in the last stages of the feasibility study on the North Industrial Corridor. Some highlights of Mr. Maloney's presentation are as follows:

- An alluvial sand aquifer lies under most of Wichita
- River water has direct contact with the aquifer making it more important to remediate these waters
- Explanation of Air Sparging & Soil Vapor Extraction
- Explanation of Electrical Resistive Heating (which will be used at Washington/English, the first ERH site in Kansas)
- Explanation of Chemical Oxidation and reactive iron wall technology

After a short question and answer session Mr. Maloney turned the floor back over to Mr. Terrebonne, who asked Kim Austin to update the group.

Ms. Austin recently attended the 11th Annual Watershed Conference. Ms. Austin revealed that Kansas WRAPS groups' success is far more developed than the rest of the nation. Key points from the conference were:

- Dams and dam safety-KS has been proactive about inspections/compliance with safety regulations
- Flood events are becoming more severe across the nation
- May 28th is the 1 day REAP conference in Hutchinson
- Spring Creek watershed
- Hope to get Homeowner's Associations more involved in restoration
- Laws are changing, however funding is not

Mr. Terrebonne asked Becky Lewis to give an update on WRAPS.

Ms. Lewis stated that a contractor had been selected and approved by the internal auditor. The selection will go before the City Council on June 2nd. They will then proceed with gaining stakeholders and presentations for the WRAPS chapter. Ms. Lewis was excited about ARRA money being available to the city and department of Energy Community Block grant money to be used to reduce fuel emission by synchronizing the traffic lights in town and building more bike paths. The money would also be used to improve energy efficiency in City owned buildings and put in a “green roof” atop the Rounds and Porter building. The money has already been allocated to the City of Wichita. It just has to be requested by City officials. The money is part of the Revolving loan fund. The “Green roof” is part of a demonstration project, but will provide electrical savings through insulation as well as prevent storm water runoff. Additionally, this would solve the problem of insufficient funds to repair or replace the leaky roof currently on Rounds and Porter.

Mr. Terrebonne thanked Ms. Lewis for her exciting news. Then, he gave Hoyt Hillman an opportunity to speak about River Stabilization.

Mr. Hillman plans to start his project in the high visibility areas of downtown and work his way through the private areas of the City. Mr. Hillman has established partnerships with many various groups interested in riverbank beautification and clean water initiatives, including North High School, the Park Dept., Master Gardeners, etc. He proposes using riparian filters along the river to cut costs for park dept. manpower, gasoline, and emissions; having the added benefit of naturally cleaning the water before it runs back into the river. They also plan to plant flowers native to Kansas along the riverbanks and negotiate with homeowners and people who want to feed the geese instead of just saying NO constantly. Mr. Hillman realizes the challenges that lie ahead and plans to try to accommodate everyone’s needs in his project.

Mr. Terrebonne concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for their participation.